

Missouri Department of Conservation Presents Logger Awards

JEFFERSON CITY, MO - The Missouri Department of Conservation recently announced that Jim Zwyers of O'Fallon was chosen the State Logger of the Year for 2009. Zwyers received his award July 25th at the Missouri Forest Products Association Summer Meeting in Lake Ozark, MO.



From left to right: John Tuttle, Lisa Allen, Jim Zwyers, Jeff Bakameyer, and Kyle Kramer

According to Jeff Bakemeyer, Missouri Department of Conservation, “Zwyers is a man of outstanding character and integrity. When he gives you his word, you can take it to the bank and guarantee it will happen as he promised.” Josh Stevens, Missouri Department of Conservation, commented that “Jim is very concerned with keeping his customers happy and works hard to make sure that they are satisfied with the harvest operation.”

Criteria for selecting a winner includes good working relationships with landowners and foresters, minimal damage to remaining trees and resources, preventions of soil erosion, aesthetics of the site after harvesting was complete, safe work performance and use of equipment, utilization of harvested trees, the desire to address wildlife management concerns, and use of proper forest management techniques. The logger must have completed the *Professional Timber Harvester's Training Program* sponsored by the Missouri Forest Products Association and the Missouri Department of Conservation.

Regional Logger Awards are also given throughout the state each year. This year the regional winners are: Shannon Jarvis (Southeast Region), Travis Yake (Southwest Region), Jim Zwyers (St. Louis and Central Regions), Leroy & Kelly Frizzell (Ozark Region), and Terry Hicks (Northeast Region).



Presentation of St. Louis and Central Regions Logger Awards
From left to right: Cathy deJong, Jim Zwyers, and Tim French

Crader Distributing Company, headquartered in Marble Hill, MO (the exclusive distributor of STIHL Outdoor Power Equipment in Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska and Southern Illinois) sponsored the 2009 Logger Award program. STIHL donated a protective kit to each Regional Logger Award recipient and a new chainsaw to the State Logger of the Year.

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